

## RECORDER GOFF AFTER WENTWORTH. Thinks the City Official Made a Serious Mistake in a Decision.

Suggests That the Grand Jury  
Be Asked to Consider the  
Action.

Of Two Men Who Pleading Guilty One  
Was Set Free and One  
Held for Trial.

ARRESTED FOR THE SAME OFFENCE.

Seeming Injustice of the Case Pro-  
vokes the Judge to Place the Mat-  
ter Before the District  
Attorney.

Recorder Goff has fallen foul of a decision rendered by Magistrate Wentworth, and the Grand Jury has been asked to consider the evidence and decide whether the city official should be indicted.

The trouble began when Frank Clark, of No. 218 Bowery, was arraigned before the Recorder charged with an offense for which he could be sentenced to twenty years in State prison. A statement of the case was made to the Court, and Clark was asked to plead.

"Guilty," he promptly responded. Recorder Goff was about to sentence him when Park Policeman William Flynn asked permission to make a statement. He said that he had arrested Clark and Edward Mills, of Westport, Conn., in the City Hall Park on the night of September 21. The evidence against them was clear and both were arraigned before Magistrate Wentworth on the following day in the Centre Street Police Court. There both had pleaded guilty. In spite of this, Mills had been discharged and Clark held for trial.

Papers Here It Out.  
Recorder Goff sent for the papers in the case. They bore out the statement. Then he called Assistant District Attorney Osborne, who was prosecuting Clark, and had a long talk with him. When this was over the Recorder said:

"I will suspend sentence in Clark's case. It seems from the documents in the case that he is no more guilty than his companion, who was set free by a city Magistrate. Such a state of affairs is an injustice and should not be allowed."

The papers in the case were turned over to Mr. Osborne and he was instructed to lay all the facts before the Grand Jury and request that body to take action. Mr. Osborne replied that he would do so and would ask the Grand Jury to investigate the action of Magistrate Wentworth. Then Assistant District Attorney McMahon was called in and put in charge of the matter. He was prompt in carrying out instructions and yesterday an indictment was returned against Mills. What action, if any, was taken in regard to Magistrate Wentworth the officials of the District Attorney's office would not say.

The Magistrate Serene.  
Magistrate Wentworth is not at all worried over the matter.

"Fshaw," he said, as he considered the matter. "I guess Mr. Goff is still suffering from the effects of the Barbara Ann decision. I don't remember the case in question just now. There were two or three like it during the month, but if I held one man and discharged another I undoubtedly had reason for acting in such a way. The fact that the records show both men pleaded guilty is not conclusive. The prisoners make their plans to the clerk. They came before me frequently. I thought that though a man says he is guilty, I find such extenuating circumstances on questioning him that I think his case has been sufficient punishment. It may be so in this case. I can't remember, and I don't bother to look it up until the judge issues a bench warrant for me."

SHE MUST "MOVE ON."

This Poor Woman Has Heard That Order  
In Many Other Cities and Now  
She Hears It Here.

"Move on! Move on!" Those words have been ringing in the ears of poor Matilda Koch for five years. She has heard them in Fort Wayne, Ind., in Indianapolis, in Columbus, O., in Canton, O., in Pittsburg, in Philadelphia, in New York.

"Move on!" said Policeman Sheldon to her as she stood at the foot of Desbrosses street on Thursday night. "Move on, and don't come back." "Move on, and don't come back," she heard in many other cities. "Move on, and don't come back," she heard in many other cities. "Move on, and don't come back," she heard in many other cities.

"Five years ago I came to America from Germany with my husband and settled in Fort Wayne, Ind. I had no money and my money went for doctor's bills. I left me destitute. I tried to earn a living, but I was too weak. Then I was declared a 'poor person' and was driven out of town. They put me on a train and sent me to Indianapolis. They would not have me there and I was sent to Columbus. From Columbus I was moved to Canton, from Canton to Pittsburg, from Pittsburg to Philadelphia, and from Philadelphia to New York. It's always 'move on, move on.'"

As the woman had not been begging she was discharged. She is still "moving on."

TOWN GOES UP IN SMOKE.

Loss of \$300,000 Caused by a Big Blaze in  
Southern Iowa.

Creston, Iowa, Oct. 9.—The little town of Creston, Iowa, was almost destroyed by fire early this morning. The blaze broke out in the Reynolds grain elevator, which, with its contents, was destroyed. The fire soon spread, burning two entire blocks just north of the elevator.

Inadequate fire protection is responsible for a great part of the loss, which is estimated at \$300,000. The fire was not got under control until 10 o'clock this morning. Its origin is not definitely known, but the blaze is supposed to have been caused by a defective fuse in the elevator boiler room.

Brave Miss Thomas Recovering.  
Mount Airy, N. J., Oct. 9.—Miss Josephine Thomas, the nineteen-year-old girl who cut her big toe off with a carving knife yesterday after the toe had been bitten by a black spider, and thereby undoubtedly saved her life by preventing the spread of the poison, was resting comfortably today. "The bite of the spider is all right. Her physician says she would have died had she not acted as promptly as she did."

## HEALER PREDICTS WOE.

The Queen of the South Must Be Elected  
and All Should Read the  
Stone Book.

If any seeker after knowledge wishes to read the Stone Book and consult Esther, the world's healer, he will be welcome at No. 138 Macdonald street, Magistrate Crane, sitting in Jefferson Market Police Court, declined Esther's invitation yesterday, but he seemed much impressed with her appearance.

Nothing quite so aggressively freakish has been seen in New York for a long time as the "World's Healer" when she invaded the police court yesterday. The sight that met the Magistrate's startled gaze was a dwarf, not many inches over four feet high, decked out in as fantastic an array as a disordered brain could suggest. When she reached the "bridge" the little stranger stood on tiptoe and handed Mr. Crane a printed circular. While he read it she folded her arms and threw back her head with a ludicrous assumption of majesty.

The circular set forth that Esther had come from Texas by divine command to warn New York of a great danger; that since her arrival here she had found the Stone Book, which abounds with important information that New York is not Adam's wife, but his daughter, and that the Bible was not to be trusted. "Who sent you here?" inquired Mr. Crane, soothingly, after reading the circular. "I am sent here by command of God," she replied with asperity.

"Well, I'm afraid you're in the wrong place," said the Magistrate.

"Listen to me," shouted the woman. "We will not have any justice from the last two

years."

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## LUCK CHEATED FIRES OF HUMAN INCENDIARIES HAD DONE THEIR Work in Two East Side Buildings.

First Blaze Discovered by a  
Butcher, the Second by  
Policeman McGibney.

Two Hundred Persons Fled in Terror  
to the Roof and Thus Escaped  
Without Injury.

AUTHORITIES AT WORK ON THE CASES.

Vigorous Action Will Be Taken for the  
Capture of the Firebugs and Their Pros-  
ecution—Wave of Incendiarism  
in New York.

Two more mysterious fires were added yesterday to the long list of the past few weeks that is puzzling the police and the

authorities.

The first blaze was discovered by a butcher, the second by policeman McGibney.

Two hundred persons fled in terror to the roof and thus escaped without injury.

The authorities are at work on the cases.

Vigorous action will be taken for the capture of the firebugs and their prosecution.

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## FIREBUGS TO BE PROSECUTED.

Assistant District-Attorney Davis on What Should  
Be Done to Check the Wave of In-  
cendiarism in New York.

W. R. Hearst, the Journal:

In accordance with your request for my opinion as to the best means of stopping the wave of incendiarism that is endangering lives and property, particularly on the East Side of the city, I will say that there are four important things to be done.

First—Zealous work by detectives for the apprehension of firebugs.

Second—Vigorous prosecution after they are caught.

Third—Greater care by insurance companies in the taking of risks.

Fourth—The exercise of precaution by landlords in the selection of tenants.

The District-Attorney's office will devote all the energy at its command in the prosecution of accused incendiaries. More than a score of firebugs are behind iron bars now because of the work of this office in directing the detection of offenders and conducting the prosecution. There is no record in criminal history of any other such wholesale conviction of firebugs in any city of the world.

They belonged to an organized gang, which had a system of its own in starting fires. The basis of that system was the use of explosives. There have been no such fires started within the last few months, which is clear evidence that the punishment of the men caught has deterred others from continuing their work.

The recent incendiary fires have been started by persons who are more clumsy at the work but none the less dangerous. They use oil chiefly, and the blaze is started quietly. Where explosives are used the tenants are awakened, but a fire started with oil may smother many occupants of the building while they are in their beds. On account of this great danger to life, District-Attorney Fellows is particularly anxious to make an example of some of the incendiaries who have been at work recently, and unusual steps are being taken for their apprehension.

The tenants of buildings in which incendiary fires are started can do much to aid the authorities by giving immediate notice of such fires, and by revealing every circumstance they think is suspicious. Insurance companies can aid in the prevention of incendiarism by exercising precaution in the placing of risks in tenement buildings; and landlords can protect their own property and look after the interests of their tenants by renting their apartments only to parties they know to be law-abiding.

The remainder of the accused incendiaries will be placed on trial soon. It is believed that convictions will result in all these cases, and this will serve as warning to all incendiaries, just as the conviction several months ago acted to greatly diminish the number of fires in New York City.

The District-Attorney will not stop with the conviction of those now accused, however. He is looking for other offenders, and when they are caught it will not be the fault of this office if they do not receive the full penalty of the law.

Yours  
Vernon M. Davis

## ROBBED THE HOTEL CAFE. BLOW TO "FAKE" CLUBS.

A Discharged Bartender Caught Stealing  
from the Savoy, Where He Had  
Worked for a Long Time.

Detectives have been on the lookout for a thief at the Hotel Savoy for the past six months. Everything that disappeared was taken from the cafe in the basement of the hotel, and the detectives felt that the hunt was so narrowed down that they would bag their game without delay. All their employes having access to the cafe were shadowed without success. The effort to find the culprit was then virtually abandoned, although, things kept disappearing periodically.

Chance yesterday revealed the culprit in the person of a former bartender at the hotel, named Herman Thoden. The night watchman, John Sullivan, was on duty at about 2:30 o'clock in the morning, when he noticed that the door at the foot of the outside stairway leading from the place through a door that opened into a passageway under the pavement. The watchman went out into the street and blew his whistle. Patrolman Fennell, who was on duty, went into the passageway, where they found a man trying to hide himself in a dark corner. They hauled him out into the light, where Sullivan recognized him as Thoden, who had lost his place about six months ago.

He was given a hearing later in the day at the Yorkville Police Court, and was put under bail for trial.

## ANXIOUS TO FIND DENTON

He Is Said to Be an Actor and Is Suspected  
of Carrying Off a Fifteen-Year-Old  
Connecticut Girl.

Anxious inquiry was made yesterday at the Menlo House, corner of Sixth avenue and Twenty-eighth street, for a man who registered there Thursday afternoon as "Herbert E. Denton and wife, Philadelphia." Those who wished to get some information concerning the gentleman's whereabouts claim that he met two girls in Hartford, Conn., recently, and induced one of them, only fifteen years old, to come to New York with him.

At the Menlo House the clerk says he recollects Denton's appearance Thursday evening, but did not notice that the